

Message Text

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11

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 NEA-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 MC-02 ACDA-19 IGA-02 AID-20 COME-00

OMB-01 DRC-01 /160 W

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R 240940Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5796

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

USMISSION NATO

EUCOM

UNCLAS ANKARA 6784

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MASS, TU, US, LY, GR, FR

SUBJ: TAF PUBLICIZES NEED FOR AIRCRAFT

1. IN WAKE OF CYPRUS OPERATIONS, TURKISH AIR FORCE IS AGAIN
PUBLICIZING ITS EQUIPMENT PROBLEMS AND NEED FOR HELP.

A. TAF COMMANDER GEN. ALPKAYA GAVE INTERVIEW TO
GUNAYDIN(PUBLISHED AUG 23) IN WHICH HE STRONGLY PRAISED LIBYA
FOR HAVING OFFERED TURKEY SQUADRON OF F-5'S. BY CONTRAST,
HE NOTED THAT BELGIUM TWICE HAD EMBARGOED ROCKETS ORDERED BY
TURKEY. GERMANY HAD UNLOADED MILITARY SUPPLIES FROM AIRCRAFT
BOUND FOR TURKEY, AND "WE STILL HAVE NOT RECEIVED TWO PHANTOMS
THAT WE WERE GOING TO GET FROM AMERICA ON AUGUST 13." SUB-
SEQUENTLY, HE ADDED: "TODAY WE RECEIVED NEWS. TWO PHANTOMS
ARE COMING IN THESE DAYS. UNTIL THE END OF THIS YEAR, THEY WILL
BE DELIVERED TWO BY TWO. BUT THIS CAN CHANGE."

B. DENING THAT TAF HAD SUPPLY PROBLEMS DURING CYPRUS

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FIGHTING, ALPKAYA SAID, HOWEVER, THAT IF WAR HAD CONTINUED THERE

WOULD HAVE BEEN NEED FOR AID. HE EMPHASIZED REQUIREMENT FOR NEW AIRCRAFT AND A DOMESTIC AVIATION INDUSTRY NOTING THAT PUBLIC DONATIONS TO TAF FUND DRIVE NOW TOTALLED TL 300 MILLION, OR ENOUGH FOR FOUR F-4'S, "WHEREAS WE HAVE A NEED FOR 200 AIRCRAFT."

C. SEPARTELY, HURRIYET HAS STORY AUG 23 THAT, ACCORDING TO UNNAMED OFFICIAL, TURKEY NEEDS NEW AIRCRAFT TO OFFSET ADVANTAGE GREECE HAS GAINED VIA DELIVERY OF "44 MIRAGES FROM FRANCE AND 21 PHANTOMS FROM THE U.S.." OFFICIAL IS QUOTED AS ARGUING THAT "WHEN GREECE QUILTS NATO THE DEFENSE OF THE AEGEAN WILL AUTOMATICALLY BECOME OUR DUTY. UNDER THESE CONDITIONS, THE U.S. AND BRITAIN SHOULD GIVE US AIRCRAFT QUICKLY."

2. BID FOR ATTENTION TO TAF'S PROBLEMS COINCIDES WITH WAVE OF EDITORIALS IN TURKISH PRESS CRITICIZING FRANCE FOR PROVIDING MIRAGES TO GREECE AND STARTING ARMS RACE.
MACOMBER

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